

Art in Public Places | Cultural Arts Division | Economic Development Department

Pressler Street Extension Project

Artist Information Meeting May 13, 2014





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Welcome

Meghan Wells, Art in Public Places

Pressler Street Extension Project Background

Jules Parrish, Public Works Department Ricardo Soliz, Parks and Recreation Department (PARD)

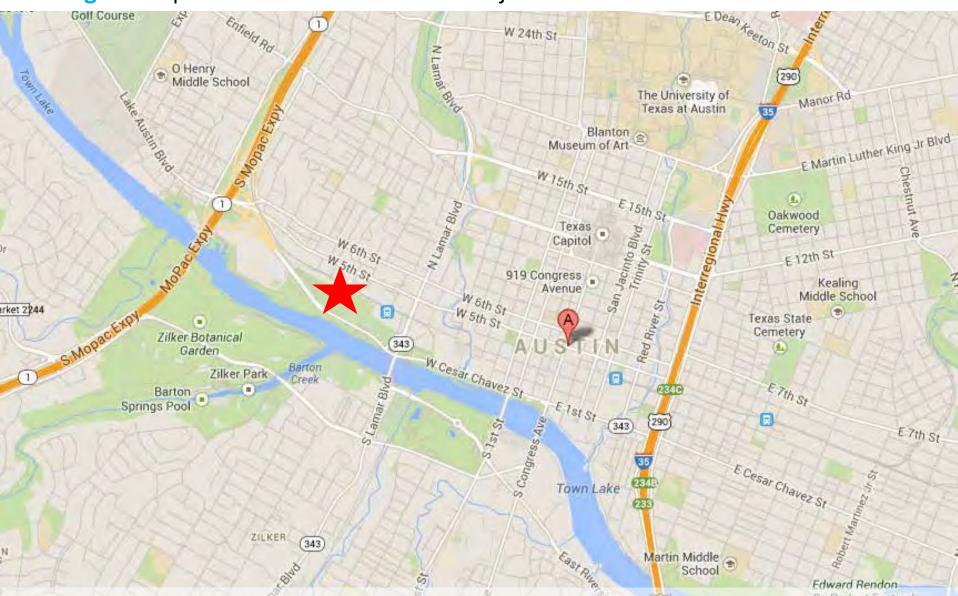
Design Development

Michael Reyes PE, Vickrey & Associates, Civil Engineering

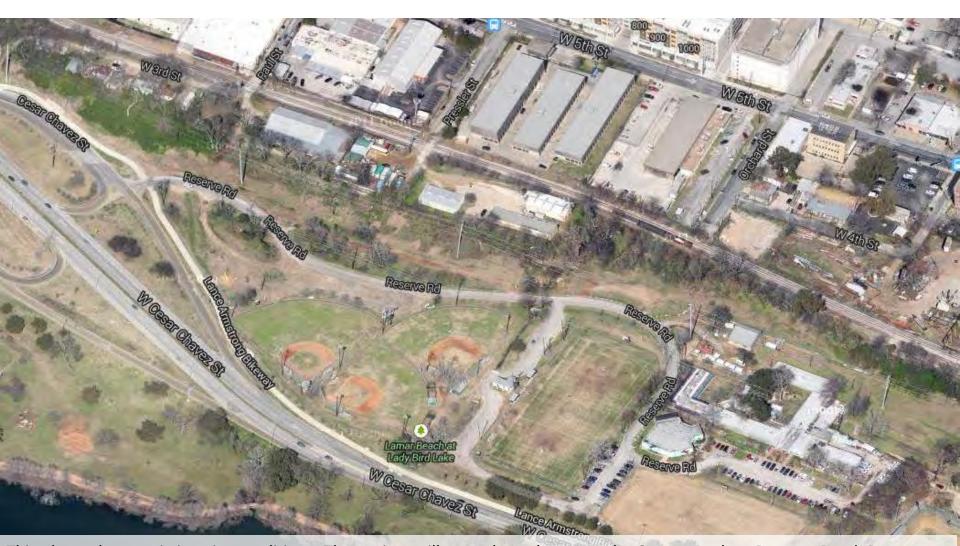
Artwork Opportunity and Selection Process

Susan Lambe, Art in Public Places





The Pressler Street Extension project, located here by the red star, is funded by the 2012 bond election, and will provide multi-modal connectivity within context-sensitive design. The project will serve all roadway users. The project will create a critical gateway into downtown once the MoPac managed lanes are implemented.



This photo shows existing site conditions. The project will extend two-lane Pressler Street south to Reserve Road. Reserve Road runs parallel to West Cesar Chavez and provides access to the Lamar Beach, which is part of the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department, and the Davenport Building, occupied by Austin Pets Alive. The extension will cross an existing Union Pacific railroad crossing that requires upgrading to accommodate public traffic. Upgrades are planned to include gates, signs, markings and other treatments necessary to designate the crossing as a quiet zone.

Recreational use



This project is within, or in proximity to, residential, recreational, industrial and commercial areas that are part the Old West Austin Neighborhood Association (OWANA). Here you see the Lance Armstrong Bikeway and the fields at Lamar Beach. The athletic fields are heavily used, and parking is at a premium during games and practices. The fields are managed by West Austin Youth Association. In the background, you can see that the terrain rises. Between the current end of Pressler Street and the athletic fields there is a significant drop in grade of approximately 22'. Incorporation of PARD's expectations for this project will be part of the design review process with the selected artist but please keep in mind that the project should be low maintenance and should not interrupt or impinge on the activities at the athletic fields.

Historic recreation

This site has long been used for recreation. Pressler's Garden was built in the early 1870s around a steam brewery started by Paul Pressler, and was located at West 6th and Pressler.



ÉLressler's ÉAudens

The Austin Pleasure Resort.

South side Pecan street, & mile west of Hotel Brunswick,

H. KOPP. PROPRIETOR.

This beautiful Place of resort has recently undergone thorough repairs and is now one of the cosiest and most comfortable resorts in the city. The Garden is arranged with comfortable benches throughout, a fine dance pavilion, and its beautiful groves affording abundance of shade.

PRIVATE OR PICNIC PARTIES

Will find every convenience and comfort afforded them to spend their leisure hours pleasantly. Elegant lunches can be had at all times.

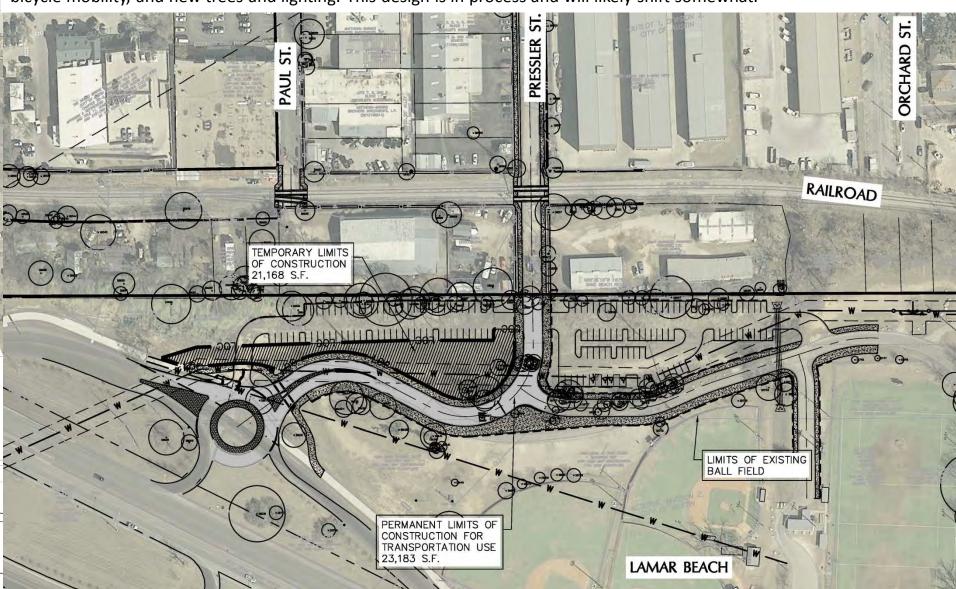
Dancing, Swinging, Croqueting and Games

Of various kinds may be indulged in with perfect quiet and safety from the intrusion of rough or improper characters.

Fresh Beer Always on Draught.

Shaded by large live oaks, Pressler's Garden spread from 6th Street down to the river and had a boathouse, a croquet court, a rifle club, swings, an alligator pit, and a pavilion.

This is the current plan for the street extension and amenities. The improvements planned for the Pressler Street Extension project include a traffic circle; rain garden(s), surface parking, new curbs and gutters, improvements to pedestrian and bicycle mobility, and new trees and lighting. This design is in process and will likely shift somewhat.



Public Art Intent and Goals | Pressler Street Extension Project

These are the project goals which will serve as guideposts throughout the project. These goals are very open, allowing for the greatest diversity of response to this call to artists possible.

The goal of this project is to select an artist/artist team who will design artwork that:

- is visually engaging and reflects the unique cultural identity of the project area;
- contributes to a local, regional and national contemporary art dialogue;
- is durable enough to hold up to the rigors of the site conditions, and is very low maintenance;
- contributes to the depth/breadth of the City of Austin's public art collection.

This public art opportunity is open to a wide range of ideas to be proposed by the selected artist, or artist team.

- A variety of durable media will be considered.
- At each site, artwork will not impede the movement of drivers, bicyclists or pedestrians.
- A painted mural is expressly not invited as a response for this call to artists, due to the amount of on-going maintenance required.

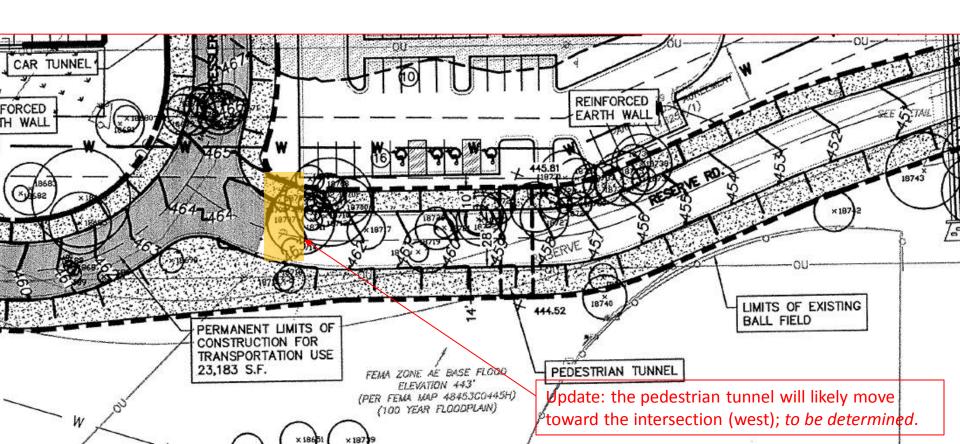
The budget is \$60,000 inclusive of design, fabrication and installation, including engineering and permitting fees, travel and shipping expenses, insurance and other project-related costs.

Eligibility: Artist, or lead artist if part of a team, must live or work in the State of Texas

Pedestrian Underpass

14' tall x 28' wide x 60' long (dimensions may change)

- The artwork should address the architectural space, enriching the experience of moving through this space, while not impeding safety.
- The underpass space will be lit. The artist may choose to affect the lighting of this space as the artwork opportunity.

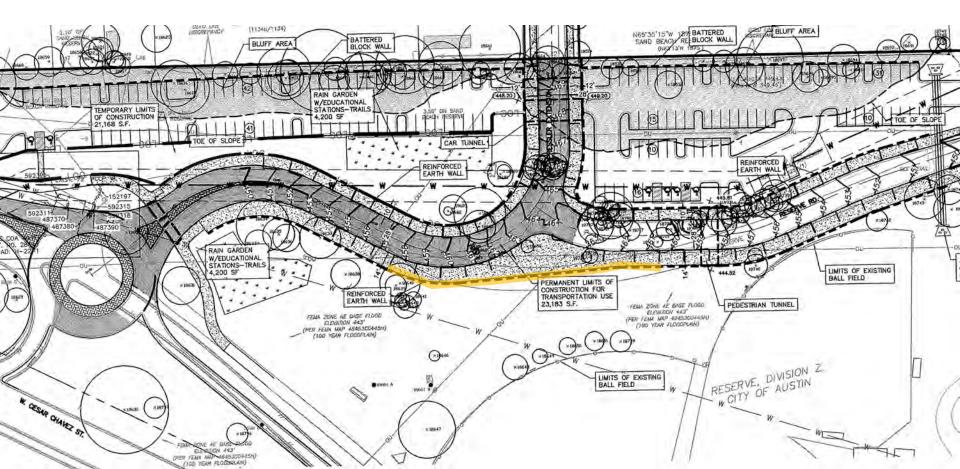


Possible locations for the artwork

Retaining Wall

The vertical surface of the wall is the art opportunity, including a possible transition to the lower level. The wall will be about 10' to 17' tall by 325' long (this is subject to change).

- The artwork should activate the wall in some way.
- Artwork which encourages climbing the wall is expressly not invited, due to safety constraints.

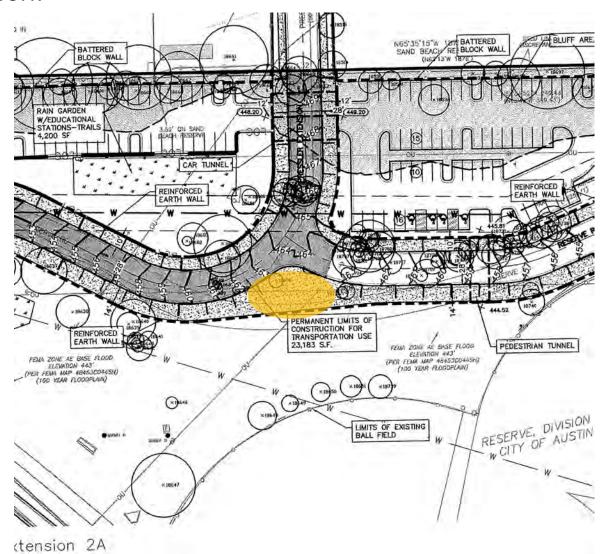


Possible locations for the artwork

Overlook

The overlook area is likely to receive special landscape treatment and may be a pedestrian node, or resting spot to overlook the park.

- Possibly provide a moment of interactivity or a framework, allowing the pedestrian or bicyclist to engage with the view.
- Possibly create a focal point to enliven the view as people move south on Pressler from W 5th.



Other sites are possible, as determined through the design process and through stakeholder feedback.

Evaluation Criteria | Pressler Street Extension Project

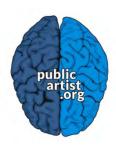
In addition to the standard selection criteria found on Art in Public Places website, the Selection Panel will review and consider the following evaluation criteria:

- artistic merit and technical expertise;
- demonstrated successful, innovative and effective approach to public art projects of a similar scope;
- ability to successfully execute a public art project in a culturally rich and complex area with multiple stakeholders; and
- expressed interest in creating artwork for the opportunities presented by this Request for Qualifications.



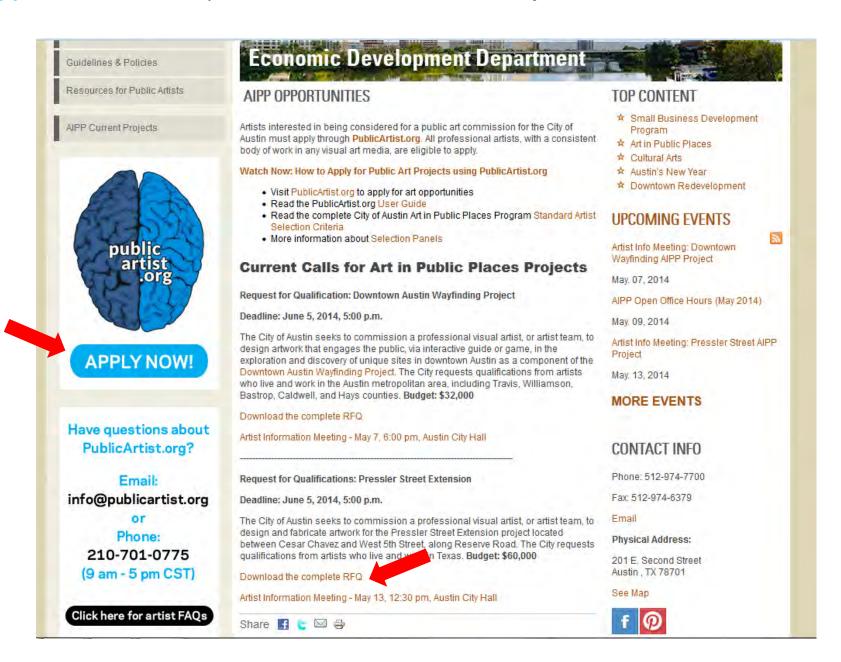
Submission Requirements

- DEADLINE: 5:00pm (CST), Thursday, June 5, 2014
- Applicants must submit all materials through www.PublicArtist.org.



- Sign up for FREE!
- Select up to 10 images to apply for the call. Artist teams must have each team member's work represented in the 10 images.
- Letter of Interest: briefly describe your specific interest in the project and explain why your qualifications are a good fit. Please keep in mind the "Public Art Intent and Goals."
- For technical assistance with your application, please contact info@publicartist.org or 210-701-0775 (9am - 5pm CST)

Application Process | Pressler Street Extension Project



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publicartist.org



Austin Art in Public Places

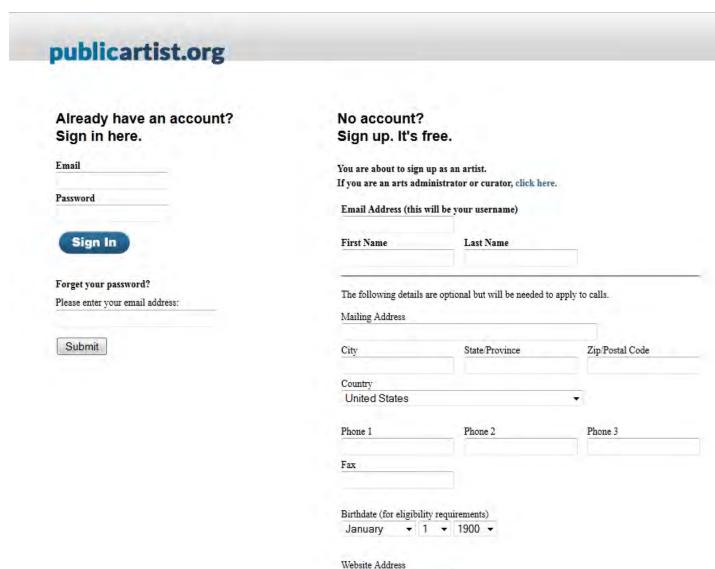
The City of Austin's Art in Public Places (AIPP) program acquires and maintains works of art for City facilities through commissions, donations and loans for the cultural enrichment of the Austin community. AIPP is a program of the Cultural Arts Division within the City of Austin's Economic Development Department.

In 1985, the City of Austin became the first municipality in Texas to make a commitment to include works of art in construction projects. By ordinance, 2% of eligible capital improvement project budgets are allocated to commission or purchase art for that site. The AIPP Collection is found at sites such as the airport, convention center, libraries, parks, police stations, recreation centers, and streetscapes, enhancing public spaces for all residents and visitors to our City.

Open Calls

Downtown Austin Wayfinding Project - \$32,000 - Deadline: 6/5/2014 Pressler Street Extension - \$60,000 - Deadline: 6/5/2014

Application Process | Pressler Street Extension Project



BOLD text indicates a required field.

For **technical assistance**, please contact info@publicartist.org or 210-701-0775

Selection Process | Pressler Street Extension Project

- The Selection Panel and Project Advisors will review and evaluate the applications and recommend up to three finalists for interviews. Finalist interviews may be in person or via Skype.
 - Selection Panel includes 3 art/design professionals (voting)
 - Project Advisors include several project stakeholders (non-voting).
- The selected artist, or artist team, must be approved by the AIPP Panel and the Austin Arts Commission.

Selection Process | Pressler Street Extension Project

Tentative project schedule (subject to change)

June 5, 2014 Deadline for RFQ submission

Mid June 2014 Selection Panel review of submissions

July 2014 Finalist interviews

August 2014 Approval of Artist and Alternate by AIPP Panel and Austin Arts Commission

September 2014 City Council approval to negotiate and execute artist contract

October 2014 Negotiate/execute artist design contract

November 2014 Project kick-off meeting

March 2015 Approval of Final Design by AIPP Panel and Austin Arts Commission

April 2015 Negotiate/execute artist commission contract

January 2016 Anticipated project completion



Art in Public Places | Cultural Arts Division | Economic Development Department

QUESTIONS?

Sue Lambe, Art in Public Places susan.lambe@austintexas.gov or 512-974-7852

Q & A sheet will be posted on our website at:

www.austintexas.gov/department/aipp-opportunities

